REMARKS

Pending Claims

Claims 1-15 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant is amending claims 1-13 and adding claims 14-15. No new matter is added.

Preliminary Matters

The objections to the specification and claims may be withdrawn in view of the self-explanatory changes shown above.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-7 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Danneels et al (US 5,663,951), hereafter Danneels in view of Ishibashi et al, A Synchronization Mechanism for Continuous Media in Multimedia Communication, INFOCOM '95. Fourteenth Annual Joint Conference of the IEEE Computer and Communications Societies. Bringing Information to People. Proceedings. IEEE 2-6 April 1995 Page(s): 1010 - 1019 vol.3. hereafter Ishibashi.

Claim 1 recites:

> a video link (L3-2) between these connection means (ML1) and the second pair (TM2, PC2), and
>
> an audio link (L3-1) between these connection means (ML1) and the second pair (TM2, PC2);
>
> wherein the connection means synchronizes audio and video data according to a delay.

Danneels teaches a delayed transmission of data packets over networks wherein signals are divided into packets for transmission from a local node to a remote node. Then the transmission of the data packets is delayed to transmit at intervals to avoid overloading the remote node with data packets that it does not have the bandwidth to receive or process. While

Danneels does delay transmission of data packets, it does not specifically mention those packets delayed as being audio and video packets and furthermore does not specifically state the delay is to synchronize the audio and video data, but to avoid overloading the remote node with data packets.[1] Therefore, Danneels does not teach or suggest the "wherein the connection means synchronizes audio and video data according to a delay" feature of claim 1.

Ishibashi relates to a synchronization mechanism for continuous media in multimedia communications. While it does generally teach about media synchronization, it does not specifically teach or suggest the "wherein the connection means synchronizes audio and video data according to a delay" feature of claim 1 nor the numerous features of claim 2 that further specify the time synchronization of the audio and video. Therefore, claims 1 and 2 are further patentable over Ishibashi.

Claims 2-7, and claim 10 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Danneels et al (US 5,663,951), hereafter Danneels in view of Ishibashi et al, A Synchronization Mechanism for Continuous Media in Multimedia Communication, INFOCOM '95. Fourteenth Annual Joint Conference of the IEEE Computer and Communications Societies; Bringing Information to People. Proceedings. IEEE 2-6 April 1995 Page(s): 1010 - 1019 vol.3 hereafter Ishibashi, and in further view of Little et al, Network and Operating Systems Support for Digital Audio and Video: Proceedings, 5th International Workshop on Network and Operating Systems Support for Digital Audio and Video, Springer 1995, hereafter Little.

[1] "The first signal-generating subsystem generates a set of signals corresponding to a portion of a session at a local node and the communication subsystem divides the set of signals into a plurality of data packets. The communications subsystem transmits a first subset of the data packets from the local node to a remote node, and then the communications subsystem transmits a subsequent subset of the data packets from the local node to the remote node after a delay to avoid overloading the remote node with data packets." (Danneels, col. 2, lines 2-11).

Claims 8 and 9 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Moreover, Little does not overcome the above noted deficiencies in the disclosures of Danneels and Ishibashi.

Claims 11, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Danneels et al (US 5,663,951), hereafter Danneels in view of Ishibashi et al, A Synchronization Mechanism for Continuous Media in Multimedia Communication, INFOCOM '95. Fourteenth Annual Joint Conference of the IEEE Computer and Communications Societies. Bringing Information to People. Proceedings. IEEE 2-6 April 1995 Page(s): 1010 - 1019 vol.3 hereafter Ishibashi, and in further view of Keshab et al, Digital Signal Processing for Multimedia Systems, CRC Press 1999 pg 245 and 274, hereafter Keshab.

Claims 11, 12, and 13 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Moreover, Keshab does not overcome the above noted deficiencies in the disclosures of Danneels and Ishibashi. The combined teachings of these references, even taken as a whole, do not render obvious the subject matter of independent claim 1, much less these rejected dependent claims.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicant petitions for any necessary extension of time. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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